

Close Up

MAGAZINE

May 1989



Dirt Band Enlarges Circle



he Nitty Gritty Dirt Band got some help from more than 50 friends for the making of WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN II.

Among the three dozen participants in the "choir" for the title cut "Will The Circle Be Unbroken" are more than 20 artists including (l to r) first row — Tracy Nelson, Randy Scruggs, Bill Lloyd and Radney Foster (Foster & Lloyd) and Wendy Waldman. Second row — Johnny Cash, June Carter Cash, Earl Scruggs, Roy Acuff, Steve Wariner and Pete "Bashful Brother Oswald" Kirby. Third row — Cindy Cash, Marty Stuart, Helen Carter Jones, Jeff Hanna (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band), Cheryl and Sharon White (The Whites). Fourth row — Sam Bush; John Cowan; Bela Fleck and Pat Flynn (New Grass Revival); Bob Carpenter and Jimmie Fadden (Nitty Gritty Dirt Band); Gary Scruggs; Vince Gill and Buck White (The Whites).

Bob Carpenter (left) and Jeff Hanna (seated) with the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band run through a rendition of "Lost River" with Michael Martin Murphey.

Johnny Cash (left) and Roy Acuff enjoy a rare quiet moment during the recording of the lp's title cut.

(See related story, page 4.) 



More than 200 industry executives, artists and friends gathered at the Country Music Hall of Fame on April 3 to help the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band celebrate the release of their WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN, VOLUME II lp. The party was co-hosted by Universal Records and ASCAP. Pictured (l to r) are songwriter Paul Kennerley and his wife, Emmylou Harris; Jimmy Ibbotson of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band; Jo Walker-Meador, executive director of the Country Music Association; and Jeff Hanna of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band.

— Photo by Beth Gwinn

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EUROPE OPEN TO AMERICAN COUNTRY TALENT

(continued on page 6)

Europeans will have the opportunity this summer to see more new American Country talent than ever before.

Artists such as Waylon Jennings, Buck Owens, Tammy Wynette, Earl Thomas Conley and Asleep at the Wheel were among the performers at the 21st International Festival of

European Festivals

ZUG FESTIVAL

May 6

Johnny Cash
Reba McEntire
Rodney Crowell

FRUTIGEN FESTIVAL

May 26 - 27

Darden Smith
Dean Dillon
Johnny Rodriguez
Billy Joe Shaver
Paul Overstreet
Holly Dunn
Sonny Curtis
Steve Young
Guy Clark

LINCOLNSHIRE INTERNATIONAL COUNTRY MUSIC JAMBOREE

May 27 - 29

Ed Bruce
Johnny Rodriguez
Paul Overstreet
Bellamy Brothers
Becky Hobbs
Moody Brothers
Dan Seals
Holly Dunn
Dean Dillon
Darden Smith
George Hamilton V
George Hamilton IV
Jean Shepard
Jack Greene
Tompall Glaser
Narvel Felts
Bobby Lee Springfield
Sonny Curtis
Lynn Anderson
Jo-El Sonnier
Jimmy Payne

Country Music at Wembley promoted by Mervyn Conn during Easter weekend. Some of these acts also played dates in Ireland, Holland and Switzerland.

In May, Europeans can see their favorite Country stars during CMA's Route '89 concert series, the International Lincolnshire Country Music Jamboree in Grantham, England and Switzerland's Zug Festival and Frutigen Singer-Songwriter Festival. Trans World Airlines is the official carrier for the events.

Trisha Walker, international director for the Jim Halsey Company, is the talent buyer and coordinator for the three festivals and assisted in the arrangements for Route '89. "The image of Country Music in Europe is changing. Newer acts are attracting younger audiences and there will always be a Country following for the long established acts like Tammy Wynette and Boxcar Willie."

CMA's Route '89 will feature Johnny Cash, Rodney Crowell, Dean Dillon, Michael Johnson, Reba McEntire, Paul Overstreet, Dan Seals, Darden Smith

and Jo-El Sonnier. Artists will play various dates around London during May.

One of the highlights of Route '89 will be a Johnny Cash show with Rodney Crowell at London's Royal Albert Hall on May 13. Reba McEntire and Michael Johnson will appear on May 7 at London's Dominion Theatre.

The HMV record store chain will be giving away free cassettes of the ROUTE '89 COLLECTION featuring songs by the Route '89 artists in its 65 stores when customers buy one of the artists' featured albums. Route '89 artists will also make in-store appearances.

"CMA's marketing campaigns such as Route '89 are designed to bring together artists, record labels, press, radio, tv and record buyers through tie ups with major retail chains," said Martin Satterthwaite, CMA's European operations director.

"These campaigns have helped to break new artists, increase awareness of Country Music and more than double U.K. record sales for Country acts over the past three years.



WEA recording artists George Fox (left) and Randy Travis (right) were joined backstage on their central Ontario tour by Capitol's Anne Murray. Travis and Fox will once again pair up for concert dates in the Maritimes starting May 2 in St. John's, Newfoundland. — Photo by Raj Rama

WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN



Players from both *CIRCLE I* and *CIRCLE II* gather for a photograph during the "choir session" for "Will The Circle Be Unbroken". Pictured are (l to r) Nitty Gritty Dirt Band member Jeff Hanna, banjoist Earl Scruggs, Roy Acuff, Jimmy Ibbotson of the Dirt Band and producer/guitarist Randy Scruggs.



— All photos by Beth Guinn

Ricky Skaggs lends his rafter-reaching tenor voice to "Little Mountain Church House".



Rocker John Hiatt (left) performs "One Step Over The Line" with sometimes-writing-partner Rosanne Cash (right). Pictured with Hiatt and Cash are Nitty Gritty Dirt Band founder Jeff Hanna (seated), producer Randy Scruggs, Bob Carpenter and Jimmy Ibbotson of the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band and Rosanne's five-week-old daughter Carrie Crowell.



When the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band came to Nashville in 1971 to record *WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN*, they were a bunch of young rock musicians with a penchant for real Appalachian music. That they'd reach out to — and be accepted by — Nashville's ultra-conservative Country Music community was a revolution in itself. And it proved that a love and respect for good music played well could bridge even the most monumental cultural and generational gaps.

That landmark 1972 classic united for the first time a California folk-rock band with many of the legends of Country Music — Mother Maybelle Carter, Roy Acuff, Earl Scruggs, Doc Watson, Jimmy Martin and Vassar Clements. It sold more than one million copies and today, 17 years later, it continues to sell 30,000 to 50,000 units each year.

When this same venerable foursome — Jeff Hanna, Jimmie Fadden, Jimmy Ibbotson and Bob Carpenter — once again gathered an assortment of their musical friends (this past December and January) to begin recording *WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN, VOLUME II*, the revolution was over. The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band is now an American institution, having been together 22 years and weathering every shift in musical taste imaginable. Only two other musical groups have achieved similar longevity — the Beach Boys and the Grateful Dead.

Their same sense of self-knowledge permeates *WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN, VOLUME II*, for these sessions weren't about pondering Country, rock, pop or any other radio format. This was music made for the sake of the song and the sheer joy of playing. *CIRCLE II*, like its predecessor, is about shucking labels and making great music. It's Bruce Hornsby playing frenzied bluegrass, Levon Helm singing a transcendent hymn, John Hiatt walking the line between Country and pop with Rosanne Cash at his side, Ricky Skaggs lending his rafter-reaching tenor, New Grass Revival romping through a sprightly gospel tune and Chris Hillman and Roger McGuinn, formerly of the Byrds, reuniting in a reprisal of a Bob Dylan-penned tune.

But mostly, this collection is about the new generation and the fact that now we finally know the circle can remain unbroken. You've got Johnny and Rosanne Cash, a father and a daughter who represent two distinct forces in modern Country Music. In fact, there are four generations of the Carter/Cash family represented on the two albums — Mother Maybelle Carter, her daughters June Carter Cash, Helen Carter Jones and Anita Carter; June's husband, Johnny Cash; Johnny's daughters Rosanne and Cindy Cash; and Rosanne's five-week-old daughter, Carrie Crowell, who slept in her mother's arms as Rosanne recorded.



Levon Helm, formerly of *The Band* and “*Coal Miners Daughter*” star turns in a mournful version of “*When I Get My Reward*”. Helm (left) pauses for a quiet laugh with Nitty Gritty Dirt Band founding member Jeff Hanna (right).

Then there’s Roy Huskey, Jr., whose father played upright bass on the first album. And there’s Randy Scruggs, who played guitar as a teenager with his father Earl on the first *CIRCLE*, and who grew up to both play on and produce this record.

The artists involved on the album read like a *Who’s Who* of popular music — Roy Acuff, Johnny and June Carter Cash, John Hiatt, John Denver, Bruce Hornsby, John Prine, Emmylou Harris, Paulette Carlson, Michael Martin Murphey, Chet Atkins, Ricky Skaggs, Chris Hillman, Roger McGuinn, Levon Helm, New Grass Revival, Jimmy Martin, Rosanne Cash, John McEuen, Bernie Leadon, Vassar Clement, Buck White, Mark O’Connor, Jerry Douglas and Roy Huskey, Jr. Like its predecessor, *CIRCLE II* was recorded live and initially mixed live to two tracks utilizing today’s most advanced technology by Ron “Snake” Reynolds.

This time, *CIRCLE* isn’t about bringing two divergent camps together — it’s about celebrating the music these artists have been making over the last two decades. Perhaps they didn’t change the face of Country Music this time around; but, they broke down barriers — and sometimes, that’s more than enough. **CJ**

The two-record, 20-song set will be released on Universal Records in early May.




Bruce Hornsby (center) romps through “*Valley Road*” with Nitty Gritty Dirt Band members Jeff Hanna (seated left), Jimmy Ibbotson and Bob Carpenter.



The King of Country Music, Roy Acuff (center), poses with members of the 22-year-old Nitty Gritty Dirt Band after finishing his part on the classic “*Will The Circle Be Unbroken*”. Pictured (l to r) are Jimmie Fadden, Jimmy Ibbotson, Acuff, Bob Carpenter and Jeff Hanna.



Former Byrds members Chris Hillman (left) and Roger McGuinn (right) reprise their 1968 Bob Dylan-penned tune “*You Ain’t Going Nowhere*” for the *CIRCLE II* album. Adding acoustic guitar to the song is the album’s producer, Randy Scruggs (lower right).

AND THE  RIRCLE WILL CONTINUE...

"Our objectives in this office are to continue such marketing efforts while trying to gain more acceptance for Country acts on radio and tv. We're also trying to encourage other countries to mount similar campaigns and give more attention to Country Music," Satterthwaite said.

Walker says that playing dates in Europe helps the artist and European audiences.

"The European fans tend to be more loyal and dedicated than Americans. Unfortunately, in so many cases, artists will wait too many years to go to Europe until they are so big in the States that European promoters can't afford them. It takes a minimum of four days to play one concert in Europe — a day to travel, a day to rest, a day to perform and a day to return home. This means an artist may give up four lucrative play dates in the States for one European performance which usually brings in less money.

"But there is a viable long-term market overseas if only artists will invest early in their career. Then chances are better of the act making the same money on both sides of the Atlantic," Walker said.

"Hopefully with increased sponsorship of festivals and tours, more artists will travel to Europe in years to come." 



Several Country stars gathered at a recent "Nashville Now" show. Pictured following the live TNN presentation are (l to r) Charlie Daniels, Shelby Lynne, Randy Travis and Roy Rogers.

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Top Artists To Perform At Fan Fair

More than 50 stars are scheduled to perform at the 1989 International Country Music Fan Fair scheduled for June 5 - 11 at the Tennessee State Fairgrounds in Nashville.

The schedule and tentative lineup includes:

Monday, June 5

6:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. **Bluegrass Show**
To be announced

9:30 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. **Cajun Show**
Cedric Benoit
Jimmy C. Newman
Doug Kershaw

Tuesday, June 6

9:30 a.m. **Opening Ceremonies**

9:45 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. **International Show**
Porter Wagoner - Emcee
Kathy Mattea - Emcee
The Jordanaires - Backup Singers
The Walters Family/Canada
Two Hearts/England
Arne Benoni/Norway
Voytek Gassowski/Poland
Sandy Kelly/Ireland
Jessé/Brazil
Vera Ferial/Indonesia

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Atlantic/America Records Show**
Billy Joe Royal
Girls Next Door
Jeff Stevens
Pal Rakes
Robin Lee
Billy "Crash" Craddock

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Mercury/PolyGram Records Show**
Butch Baker - Emcee
Kathy Mattea
The Burch Sisters
Larry Boone

8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. **MCA Records Show**
Gerry House - Emcee
Lee Greenwood
Steve Wariner
Oak Ridge Boys
New Artist Segment:
James House
Karen Staley
Lionel Cartwright

Wednesday, June 7

10:00 a.m. - noon **Universal Records Show**
Charlie Chase - Emcee
Eddy Raven
Lacy J. Dalton
Tim Malchak
Wild Rose
The Gatlins
Nitty Gritty Dirt Band
Joni Harms

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. **Warner Bros. Records Show**
Holly Dunn
Forester Sisters
Gene Watson
The A-Strings

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. **RCA Records Show**
Shelly Mangrum - Emcee
Ronnie Milsap
Jo-El Sonnier
Clint Black
Lorrie Morgan

Thursday, June 8

10:00 a.m. - noon **Capitol Records Show**
Dan Seals
T. Graham Brown
Sawyer Brown
Suzy Bogguss
New Grass Revival

2:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. **16th Avenue Records Show**
Charley Pride
John Conlee
Canyon

7:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. **CBS Records Show**
Ricky Skaggs - Emcee
Ricky Van Shelton
Shenandoah
Vern Gosdin
Linda Davis
Russell Smith

Friday, June 9

10:00 a.m. - noon **Songwriters Show**
To be announced

1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. **Airborne Records Show**
Mickey Gilley
Stella Parton
The Sanders

3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m. **Independent Label Show**
Lisa Childress - True Records
Bonnie Guitar - Playback Records
Bertie Higgins - Southern Tracks
Josh Logan - Curb Records
Gary Stewart - HighTone Records
Hank Thompson - Step One Records

Sunday, June 11

10:30 a.m. - 6:00 p.m. **Grand Masters Fiddling Championship (Opryland U.S.A.)**

Already, more than 15,000 people have registered for Fan Fair. The ticket price of \$65 includes more than 30 hours of concerts, admission to the exhibit halls and autograph signing sessions, a ticket to Opryland U.S.A. amusement park, the Country Music Hall of Fame and the Ryman Auditorium plus two meals.

Fan Fair is co-sponsored by the Country Music Association and the Grand Ole Opry. For more information write: Fan Fair, 2804 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214.



The McCarters

During the 1987 International Country Music Fan Fair, Jennifer McCarter swept stage floors, while her younger twin sisters — Lisa and Teresa — collected tickets at Opryland's front gates.

A year later, at the 1988 Fan Fair, these young ladies from East Tennessee performed on stage as one of Country Music's hottest new groups — the McCarters.

Their newfound fame, they insist, hasn't changed them. "We want our fans to know we're workin' to live, just like anybody else," says Jennifer. "What others choose to do may not be as prestigious, but what they do is just as important. We feel that God gave us this talent."

Indeed, the McCarters are blessed with the gift of crooning traditional Country songs in silky, lilting harmony. They love it when people tell them, "You girls are what Country Music needs!"

The McCarters seem as tough-looking as cream puffs, but don't be fooled. In 1987 Jennifer repeatedly contacted the office of Kyle Lehning, producer for Country superstar Randy Travis. She finally managed to talk her way into an audition. The girls then drove straight to Nashville to sing for Lehning, and were signed to Warner Bros. Records a few days later.

Although they're in their early twenties, the sisters have plenty of experience to draw on. They trace their musical heritage on both sides of the family; their mom sang gospel and daddy played the banjo.

Growing up, the McCarters sang at church, on local television shows, in tourist variety shows and did three-part harmony for tips on the streets of Sevierville, their hometown.

Today those humble street-singing days are in the past. Last year, the McCarters released their first album — THE GIFT — on Warner Bros. Recently they released the up-tempo single "Up And Gone", and their second lp is due out this summer.

Putting out an album, says Lisa, is hard work. "We really try to fine-tune our voices when we're in the studio recording. That takes lots of time and effort, but it's just like building our career. We've had to learn patience from all this; we realize things just don't happen overnight."

The sisters' cheerful personalities complement their stunning beauty — classic porcelain features contrasting with dark, bountiful tresses. "It's great performing as sisters because you can tell each other exactly how you feel," notes Jennifer. "Yeah, without getting mad at each other," Lisa chimes in.

"You can break up as a group, but not with your sisters," Jennifer says firmly. The three sisters live together in Nashville, plus keep close ties with their four other sisters back home.

As on so many issues, the McCarter sisters see eye-to-eye on the types of songs they choose to sing.

"We don't want to do just any old song about goin' to a bar and meetin' a guy," Teresa explains. Love songs with a positive message are strongly favored such as "Timeless And True Love", the McCarters' first hit single. They're also partial to tunes that tell a special story, like the song "Letter From Home" on their first album. The song, co-written by Jennifer McCarter and Carl Jackson, transforms a simple letter from Mom into a poignant, down-home ballad:

*Your dad heard your record in Knoxville
And he told me that he felt so proud
That he stopped along-side of the highway
And turned up the radio loud.*

The sisters don't mince words about the importance of family values in their career. The folks back home are a wellspring of support, Jennifer points out. "Our parents encourage us, and they may warn us about things, but they know we have to make our own decisions. If we make a mistake, it's our own."

Right now, the McCarters want to polish up their songwriting skills. To help them do that, Warner/Chappell music publishers are arranging for them to meet with established songwriters to "bounce off ideas," Teresa says.

On the singing side, if you ask these ladies who their favorite singers are, you'll get a double answer. "Emmylou Harris and Dolly Parton," the twins pipe in unison. "Dolly's song, 'Coat Of Many Colors', is one of our favorites," Jennifer adds.

Reflecting on the past couple of years, the McCarters say highlights include appearing on Parton's network television show and performing on the Grand Ole Opry

for the first time. Besides touring across the United States, they've also entertained American troops based in Europe.

"When we were growing up, we never had a vacation because there were so many of us kids, so we've really enjoyed seeing all the different states and countries," says Lisa.

♥ You can break up
as a group,
but not with your sisters. ♥

— Jennifer McCarter


Looking ahead, the McCarters are planning tours in Canada, along with a full schedule of state fair performance dates and a guest stint on "Hee Haw" later this summer. They also plan to meet with fans and sign autographs at the 1989 Fan Fair this June.

The fact that the McCarters never forget their roots pleases their fans. "It seems like wherever we go, everybody wants to hear the Tennessee song — 'Rocky Top'," says Jennifer. "We throw it in the show and the crowd goes berserk!"

To no one's surprise, the McCarters have gotten their fair share of attention from overeager fans who shower them with flowers and limousine rides. But these down-to-earth women place more value on the simple offerings from young fans.

"We were nominated for Favorite New Country Artist at the American Music Awards this year," Jennifer recalls. "Even though we didn't win, it was an honor just to be considered. Well, one little girl drew a picture of the award, pasted it on a heart, and wrote on it that we were her winners."

And, like so many moms and dads who tack their kids' artwork to the refrigerator door, the McCarters did the same thing with this handmade tribute.

They're proud of the fact that their fans are from all age groups. "Little boys just want a picture, while the big men want to marry you," says Jennifer with a laugh.  — Brynell Somerville

"Letter From Home" by Jennifer McCarter and Carl Jackson. © 1988 PolyGram International Publishing, Inc., Amanda-Lin Music (Santa Monica, CA 90401) and WB Music Corp./Hen House Hits. International Copyright secured. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

I WRITE THE SONGS

Sonny Throckmorton's dream hasn't come true, but that's ok.

The dream started when he was a child.

He began singing in duets and trios with his sisters in the Pentecostal church where his dad preached. He went on to win some local talent contests in Wichita Falls, Texas then left to sing professionally in nightclubs in California when he was 19. There, he got his first break, signing a record contract with Renegade Records for Gary Paxton. From there, Nashville songwriter Johnny McRae lured him to the Country Music scene with the usual bait, "You've got it kid. You're gonna be a star."

He dreamed big and began writing songs to pay the bills. "I started writing when I realized I could make some money. I couldn't remember the words or the melodies to other people's songs. I would try to sing their lyrics, but I ended up using different words that seemed to work pretty good."

In the early days, he screened songs for publishers such as Pete Drake, Audrey Williams, Pickwick International and United Artists.

"I've always said that if you want to learn how to write songs, screen them because it will tell you what not to do. I liked doing it because it put me in the writer's corner. I had to say 'no' sometimes because a writer would come in who obviously did not have it. He couldn't keep meter, or sing melody, or make rhyme. I told him that maybe practice would help, but not to give up his day job. Then some people brought in almost finished songs that I knew I couldn't publish, but by giving them a contract, I gave them the spark of hope they needed to go on to great things."

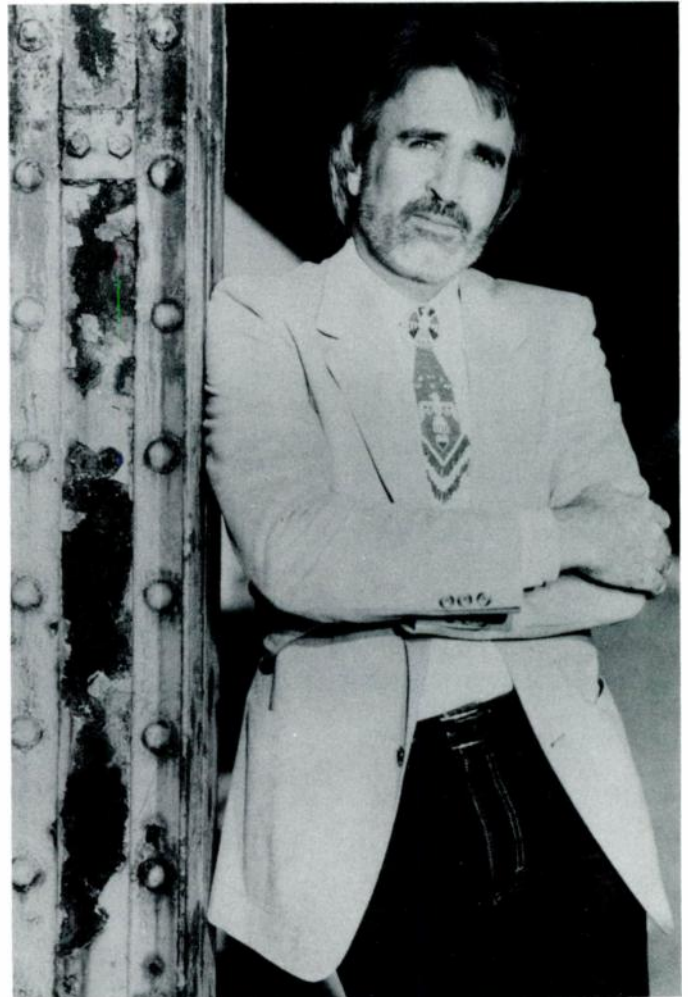
Because he screened so many songs, Sonny knew a hit when he heard it. "The longer you stay in music, the harder it gets to hear 'no'. You get to the point where you feel like you know a good song so the rejection factor is probably the hardest thing about songwriting. I even took one of my songs that Pete Drake vetoed to another place and it went number four when Bobby Lewis released it. You have to write a bunch of songs before you know when the diamond is polished enough."

❖ Live clean, work hard, and don't fudge. ❖

Sonny encourages writers to use other writers as sounding boards. "If you write by yourself, you have to wait until the song is cut and people respond to get the feedback. When you co-write, it's instant gratification."

Different personalities can create monster hits if they're dedicated and willing to work. "I could write with the devil if he could come up with some lyric. I wouldn't necessarily like him but I'd write with him."

Sonny Throckmorton



Sonny has written with Nashville's best-known writers and struggling newcomers. "I like to help rookies because someone who was better once sat down with me. You pay that person back by passing your craft down to someone else. It's good for your soul to pass it on."

"When I started out, I had to make it. I knew that if I was 90 years old knocking on the producer's door with a cane to play him my latest song I was going to make it."

From a catalog consisting of between 1,500 and 2,000 songs, Sonny would be hard-pressed to determine his favorite line. "I can name a bunch of them that Roger Miller wrote. I guess I liked my line, 'I can almost see that bobber dancing' from 'The Way I Am' until Don Cook asked me what I meant about the 'barber' dancing."

"I got one song idea from a neighbor in Lebanon (Tennessee). I went over to visit him and as I was leaving, he asked me to call the law if I heard any shooting. I asked him why and he said he was trying to love two women. I backed out of the driveway, wrote the song in 15 minutes and had a number one."

*Trying to love two women is like a ball and chain
Trying to love two women is like a ball and chain
Sometimes the pleasure ain't worth the strain
It's a long old grind and it tires your mind*

Sonny's admired writers like Roger Miller, Willie Nelson and Roy Orbison.

“I could write with the devil if he could come up with some lyric.”

"When I first started singing in Texas, Orbison was singing 'Pretty Woman' and my band sang all his songs. Then I came to Nashville and the first recording session I went to was Orbison's. Later, I was playing in Dallas and my band was the next act up. About that time, someone discovered Orbison in the crowd and got him to come on stage. Of course, he sang 'Crying' and 'Pretty Woman' and left 'em ringed out. I had to follow that. My band froze and I wasn't much better, so he really wrecked my train that day.

"Another time I was in Houston at KIKK promoting my new record. The promotion director Joe Ladd told me he hadn't gotten it yet. He had a 50-gallon drum full of records they weren't going to play. I got to digging around in there and right on top was Orbison's latest record. I couldn't believe they weren't playing his new record. Then I picked it up and right underneath his was mine. The last time Orbison and I were together was when we were both inducted into the National Songwriters Association Hall of Fame in October 1988."

Nashville has changed a lot since the early days. "When I started, you could hang out on the row a year, and you may not have known everyone, but you knew of everyone. Everyone small talked and encouraged, 'Hey, I heard your new song and it's great' or 'Good demo the other night'. Now it's a corporation instead of a family operation. The basics of writing aren't any different because it's hard work. The harder you work, the luckier you get. You've got to walk in there with gold. I suppose there are some writers who haven't paid their dues, but the business has a way of weeding those people out."

What would Sonny tell his daughter about getting into the music business?

"Live clean, work hard, and don't fudge. Make sure your diamond is as polished as it can be and never substitute hard work for anything. I'd tell her to beware of the casting couch, to be very aware of how good her product is, and not to sell herself, but to sell her songs."

Sonny's songs have sold well. But while his songs were climbing the charts for others, his own career as an artist floundered.


"I've been on every record label but two — I've got Columbia and RCA to go," he says and laughs. "But the biggest compliment I was paid as a writer was to have great artists cut my songs. They risk careers on your songs and

they sing 'em and make 'em sound good. It's such a thrill to have them call up and say, 'Hey, I cut your song last night. Let me play it for you over the phone.'

"I think singers have the guts to get up on stage, to talk to promotion people, to wine and dine the right people, so I can understand why they're in the spotlight more.

"It doesn't bother me because I don't know all the famous actors who played in Shakespeare's plays, but I know who Shakespeare is."

In the wake of Sonny's success as a writer, he never did what he came to Nashville to do. He is still Sonny Throckmorton, The Songwriter.

"Logically, I have no problem accepting that I'm a songwriter and not a singer. In my head, I say that it's probably right. But in my heart, I wish they had bought my records and loved 'em." 

— Fronda Throckmorton

Frona is Sonny Throckmorton's daughter.

"Tryin' To Love Two Women" by Sonny Throckmorton © 1979 Cross Keys Publishing Co. Inc. All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Songs Written Or Co-Written By Sonny Throckmorton

"Thinking Of A Rendezvous"

Johnny Duncan

"Knee Deep"

Dave & Sugar

"18 Again"

George Burns

"The Way I Am"

Merle Haggard

"Tryin' To Love Two Women"

Oak Ridge Boys

"Wish You Could Have Turned My Head"

Oak Ridge Boys

"Friday Night Blues"

John Conlee

"What I Had With You"

John Conlee

"She Can't Say That Anymore"

John Conlee

"Smooth Sailin' "

T. G. Sheppard

"Last Cheater's Waltz"

T. G. Sheppard

"Why Not Me"

The Judds

"Cheatin' Situation"

Moe Bandy

"Middle Age Crazy"

Jerry Lee Lewis



WWYZ



WWYZ program director Johnny Michaels jokingly calls the Northeast "Country Music's last frontier."

WWYZ, located in Hartford, Connecticut, is the first FM Country station to cover the whole state in over 25 years. In addition to Connecticut, WWYZ reaches parts of Massachusetts, New York and Vermont.

WWYZ switched from an adult contemporary format to Country in September 1988. Michaels explains some sponsors were skeptical about the switch but were quickly proved wrong.

"We're the only game in town and people who like Country Music are begging us not to go away. We've gotten 8,000 pieces of mail already telling us how great they think we are and how wonderful it is to be able to listen to Country Music.

"We had a 1.2 share in Hartford over the summer of 1988. Since switching

COUNTRY 92.5

W W Y Z · F M

formats we've doubled our audience every month to the point where we have a seven share. That's moved us from 12 to four in our target demographic of 25 - 54."

Michaels believes the change went smoothly because the feel of the station didn't change.

"All we did was play Country Music as opposed to adult contemporary. Our old listeners still felt comfortable with us. We are still the same bright sounding radio station. So many people have written to us saying, 'I can't believe I'm listening to Country. I thought I hated Country Music.'"

Michaels says one of the challenges facing Country radio today is how to compete with other formats.

"I think in a lot of markets the Country station has always been thought of as second rate. We've worked hard not to portray that image because we're in a very slick market. We're in competition with top 40 stations that have all the equipment,

gimmicks, contests and billboards. We do it just like everybody else because we're just as good as anybody."


Since WWYZ went Country there's been new interest from clubs wanting to feature more Country acts.

"We had one club which is basically top 40 that tried Country on a Sunday afternoon. The place holds about 450 people and they had to turn some away. They decided to try it on Thursday night too and they still had to turn people away. Eventually they gave up their oldies night on Saturday to do Country Music. Now everybody wants to do it."

Michaels says although WWYZ is located in a large city he still feels community involvement is important. One of the activities WWYZ has planned for this summer will let people enjoy Country Music as well as support a good cause.

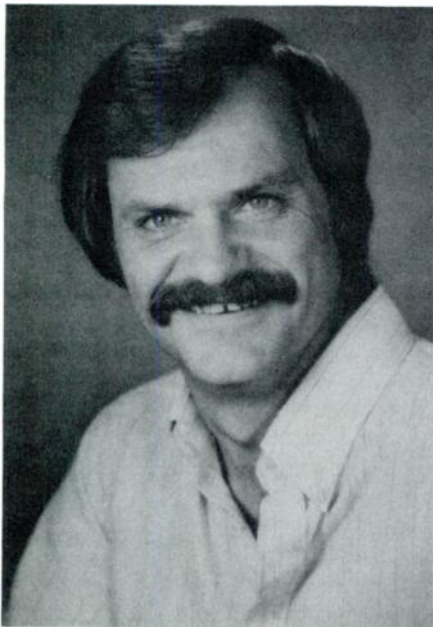
"We are going to do a promotion right in the center of downtown Hartford at a place called the State House. It's one of the first buildings in Hartford and it still sits there as a park in the middle of the city. We're going to have chicken and ribs during the lunch hour so all these people in their three-piece suits can come down from the skyscrapers and enjoy Country Music. All proceeds will go to the Hole In The Wall Gang, a charity run by actor Paul Newman that sends terminally ill children to a special summer camp."

While Hartford, Connecticut may bring images of fast-paced city life to mind and not the laid-back lifestyles so often written about in Country Music, Michaels believes the listener shouldn't be stereotyped.

"It used to be that you had to have a horse or a pickup truck, but now you don't. It's plain life. Everybody can relate. I think we can reach anybody." 

— *Jamanda Wilson*

Terry Dorsey



KSCS 96.3

Laugh and the world laughs with you. Cry and . . . well, people tune into another morning radio show. Terry Dorsey, the morning air personality at KSCS in Fort Worth, Texas ribs the listeners all the way to work.

Using a Country format mixed with a lot of personality, humor and music, KSCS is the number one Country station in the Dallas-Fort Worth market and the number two in the Dallas area for all formats. According to Dorsey, "When the show's funny and the listeners are laughing, they aren't thinking. They can relax on the way to work."

The morning show with Terry Dorsey and crew is a regular comedy routine. "A producer, news guy, traffic guy and I do the shows each morning. We all contribute and it takes everyone to make it gel. We have four breaks an hour and we lay those out ahead of time. We basically know what is going to happen as far as the topics. I tell them whether it's the mayor of Dallas, the Cowboys, or some recent news piece and then someone says, 'Yeah, I think that I can get us out of that.' We don't tell the kickers beforehand so that we hear the joke for the first time just like the listeners. I don't want phoney reactions."

It takes a lot of work to organize Dorsey's routine. "Humor requires preparing, knowing what is going on around you, and having a good sense of humor. But the most important thing is that you have to be able to poke fun at yourself. If you're going to do a Ronald Reagan joke, you've got to be able to talk about Jim Wright. And then, you have to be able to tease about your own political views."

Dorsey says he talks about a lot of different subjects on the air, but tries to avoid the negatives. Referring to his on-air humor, Dorsey says the only complaints he usually hears come from people who don't tune in regularly. A person hears one side joked about on Monday, and then doesn't listen to the other side being ribbed on Tuesday.

Dorsey's radio career spans 20 years, all of them as an air personality. In capsuling his career, Dorsey explains, "There was an all-night shift in Colorado Springs, afternoons in Richmond, Indiana, mornings in Dayton, and finally my first Country

station, KPLX in Fort Worth." When asked why he made the switch to his competition, Dorsey says, "It was one of those golden opportunities — an opportunity to stay in the same format, to be in the same area so that I didn't have to adjust to new listeners, to make some good adjustments salary-wise, and to drive a shorter distance to work. It came together in one fell swoop."


Dorsey's success as an air personality is evident in the numbers. KSCS went from number 10 to number two in the course of six months. The listeners followed their favorite morning man to add to the already growing pool of KSCS listeners.

In 1987, Dorsey was presented the CMA Major Market Personality of the Year Award. He recalls the day he found out about the honor as one of his best. "I was flattered because it is one award that is given for talent. You have to submit airchecks and you're judged by a panel of people you don't even know."

For Dorsey, the morning show runs smoothly. "At first, we had to work out the rough edges. Now that we work together well, we just figure out who's going to take one bit and who's going to finish the next one. It has become second nature."

With a minimally stressful job, Dorsey doesn't have to do much to relax at home. He travels extensively with his wife, who raises Maltese and Yorkshire Terrier showdogs. She gets the opportunity to do what she enjoys and Dorsey gets a chance to get out of town. The change of scenery gives him ideas for his radio shows.

A stressful day for Dorsey is one in which he plans out the breaks, everyone takes his part, and the show looks like it's going to be great. "Just about the time you think the show looks great, it backfires, and the people aren't funny, and the bits don't work or they're just left hanging."

How does he unwind after a day like this? "I come home and put on a business suit and pretend like I'm in an office in front of a computer for six hours." 

— Fronda Throckmorton



Jerry Douglas

Jerry Douglas' new album is appropriately titled *PLANT EARLY*. And Jerry and his father have followed that principle. John Douglas started planting musical seeds in his son early — before Jerry learned to read — and Jerry's doing the same with his boys.

"My stepson Patrick is 2½ and wants to be a Dobro player. He's got this little ukulele and turns it up like a Dobro and I bought him a slide. If he keeps on, he's gonna be great," Jerry says.

"I played at the Station Inn (a Nashville club) one night. Patrick walked up on stage with his ukulele and put his arm over his face for about two songs and then I looked around again and he was beating the hell out of it.

"I always said I burped my son Grant in time. If he couldn't go to sleep, I'd put on a record and rock him."

Grant was also on the cover of Jerry's first MCA lp *UNDER THE WIRE* when he was 4.

Jerry pursued his musical ambitions early, too. His dad, John, moved from the coal mine country of West Virginia to Warren, Ohio to work in the steel mill. His mother, Autha Nae, sold Avon, kept the kids and listened to Buck Owens and George Jones on the radio. John spent his days repairing cranes at Copperweld Steel and his nights listening to bluegrass records and leading a band called the West Virginia Travelers. Sometimes he'd take Jerry to hear Flatt and Scruggs or Bill Monroe.

When Jerry was 5, he started playing mandolin. The next year he switched to guitar.

"I had a fiddle but I broke it. The bow was the first thing to go. Then I sat on the fiddle."

Whatever instrument Jerry was learning, he always played with the Travelers. "Dad said I taught his fiddle player how to keep time."

He says he finally settled on the Dobro because it was the only instrument missing in his dad's band.

When Jerry was 11, he raised the strings on his Sears Silvertone guitar to make a Dobro. But one day he left it on a cedar chest under a window. The heat made the plastic soften. "I opened the case and the neck popped up at a 90 degree angle.

"So Dad and I went to the music store. I said I wanted to order a Dobro and the guy behind the counter said, 'What?' Nobody knew what it was in that part of the country. There wasn't another Dobro player for 300 miles. Somehow we learned to tune it." Jerry never took a lesson on his \$200 Dobro but he read the company brochure over and over.

Five years later, he took that Dobro on the road with the Country Gentlemen for a summer tour. Jerry was 16. Ricky Skaggs, another band member, was 18.

His senior year in high school, Jerry thought about becoming a dentist or maybe an English teacher. But by this time his musical roots were dug too deep.

He went on the road. "Dad was really happy but I think he was hesitant about it because of the lifestyle."

Jerry spent the next 14 years on the road playing 250 dates a year — including stints with J. D. Crowe and the New South, Boone Creek (an early Skaggs band) and until 1985 with The Whites.

"You can't form really lasting relationships when you're on the road that long. It built up over a couple of years. Something inside was telling me to just be home.

"As much as I wanted to, it was scary coming off the road. I didn't know if I was good enough. And I was dropping my regular job and not having that safe money coming in every week."

Like many road musicians who switch to studio work, it took a while for word to get around that he was available for sessions.

JERRY DOUGLAS

Awards: Named Best Dobro Player for five years in FRETTS magazine. Retired to FRETTS Gallery of Greats in 1985. Received three nominations for CMA's Instrumentalist of the Year. Received three Grammy nominations and a 1983 Grammy for Country Instrumental Performance.

On Screen: Featured in a movie about Dobro players and slide players that will air in Europe and America; Taped an instructional video, "The Dobro Techniques of Jerry Douglas".

"For a year, everybody thought I was still gone."

But since then Jerry has stayed busy, especially with the resurgence of acoustic music. He credits Emmylou Harris' *ROSES IN THE SNOW* lp in the early 1980s with the breakthrough.

While most of his time is spent in the studio, he occasionally plays club dates and festivals. Jerry says performing live adds a spontaneity to his sessions.

"When you play live, it's like being able to put out a record and go to everybody's house and see if they like it or not."

He says working on the Nitty Gritty Dirt Band's *WILL THE CIRCLE BE UNBROKEN II* album was a career highlight.

With a cast of 50, the lp was done live — roughly a song a day.

"We'd sit around and talk for a little while and play a while. By the afternoon we were ready to cut the song." He also worked with one of his childhood heroes — Earl Scruggs.

"It's amazing to sit down in a studio full of people and a legend is sitting there you've admired all your life. Earl Scruggs fully lived up to the expectations of what I thought he would be like as a person."

Besides being featured on the *CIRCLE II* album coming out this month, Douglas is also a member of *STRENGTH IN NUMBERS* that includes Mark O'Connor, Edgar Meyer, Bela Fleck and Sam Bush. Their lp will also be out in May. Then in June, Jerry's *PLANT EARLY* lp on the MCA Master Series will be released.

"I don't play Dobro like somebody played it 20 years ago." But two decades ago, probably nobody would've asked a Dobro player to sit in on a rock album either.

Jerry played lap steel on an lp for Webb Wilder and the Beatnicks. "It's kinda like 'Let's have fun with power tools.'"

Jerry's gaining notoriety for his playing but some people aren't familiar with a Dobro — including some of his relatives.

"I think I'll be successful when the whole world knows what a Dobro is."

If Jerry keeps on making music, that might not take too long. 

— Teresa George

Side Bar

Fred Newell, lead guitarist for TNN's "Nashville Now" has teamed up with the Rickenbacker International Corporation to promote the new Rickenbacker Model 250. The new guitar features a solid maple body and neck, two humbucking pickups, gold hardware and a modular shielded container for the guitar's electronics.

Fiddler Mark O'Connor, who is part of the MCA Master Series group *Strength In Numbers* will be featured on the new lp from the rock group *10,000 Maniacs* on Elektra Records.

The Nashville Sound Connection, a 24-track facility, has been named one of Nashville's top recording studios by the *NASHVILLE BUSINESS JOURNAL*. The studio boasts a variety of acts from Dolly Parton to the rock group *38 Special*.

Bud Logan is producing an album at the Music Mill for new PolyGram recording artist Shane Barmby. Pete Green is engineering the album. Players include Brent Rowan on electric guitar, Larrie Londin on drums, Steve Nathan on keyboards, Michael Rhodes on bass and Mac McAnally on acoustic guitar.

Also at the Music Mill, Harold Shedd is producing an album for new PolyGram artist Danielle Alexander. Jim Cotton and Joe Scaife are engineering the project. The album features Steve Gibson on acoustic guitar, David Briggs on keyboards, Michael Rhodes on bass, Larrie Londin on drums and Brent Rowan on electric guitar.

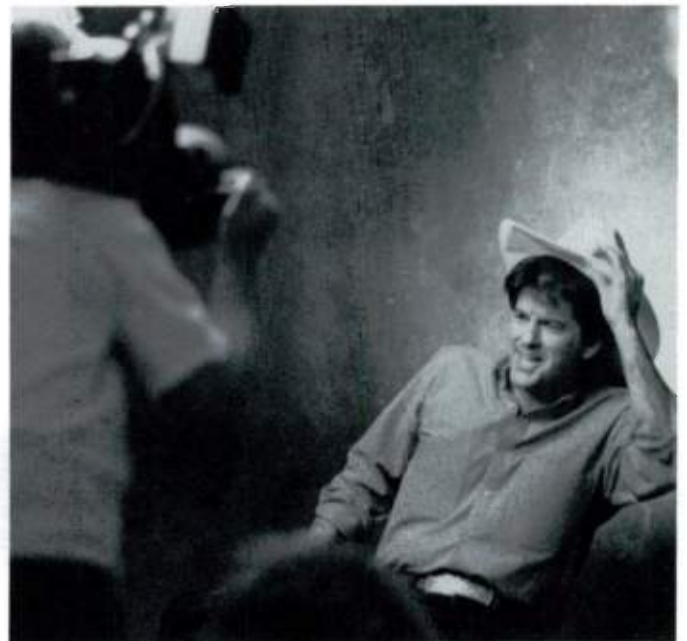
Southern Pacific has been at the Castle Recording Studios working on the group's latest project. Scott Hendricks and Mark Nevers engineered the project.



BEHIND THE LENS



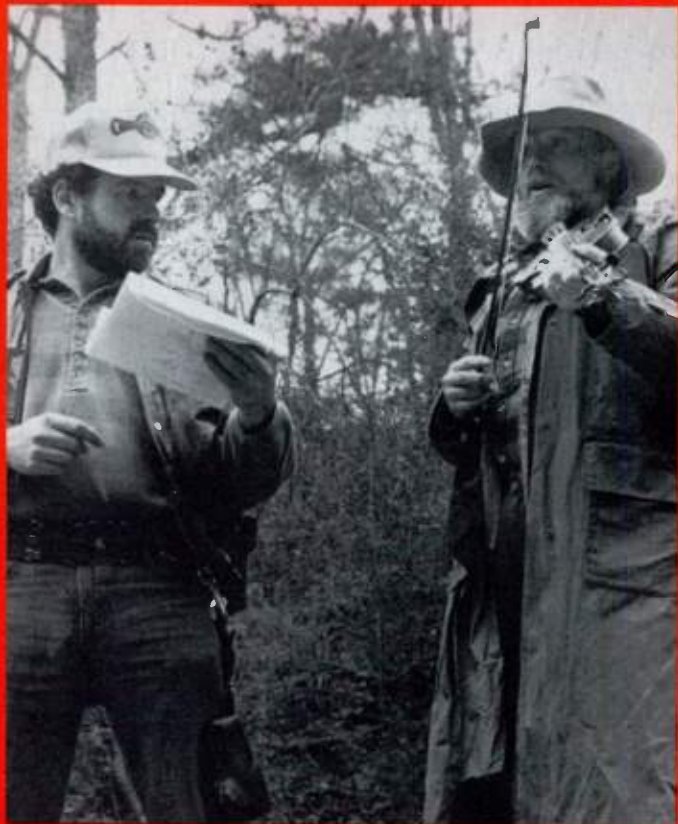
▲ Shane Barnby wraps up production on the set for his video, "Let's Talk About Us", which is also the PolyGram artist's first single. Barnby is set to release an lp this summer. His video was directed by Jim May for Studio Productions.





▲ Reba McEntire gives a new twist to an old hit in her latest music video, "Cathy's Clown". The song is the first single from her new MCA album, SWEET SIXTEEN. Shot on the Laramie Street set on the Burbank Studio lot in California, the video co-stars actor Bruce Boxleitner and was directed by Picture Vision's Jon Small. Pictured (l to r) are Small, McEntire and Boxleitner.

◀ Scene Three director Larry Boothby pauses as audio engineer Phil Gazell adjusts Tanya Tucker's microphone during the filming of her music video "Daddy And Home" in Nashville.



▲ CBS Records artist Charlie Daniels (right) gets some instruction from director Larry Boothby of Scene Three. They shot the clip at Tennessee Valley Railroad Museum in Chattanooga, Tennessee during the filming of the Charlie Daniels Band's new video, "Midnight Train".

The Oak Ridge Boys' video for their latest single "Beyond Those Years" was released in April. The video was directed by Larry Boothby and produced for Scene Three Productions in Nashville. The clip features a cameo appearance by actor Gene Edwards, star of "The Life And Times Of Grizzly Adams", one of the highest grossing independent films in history.

David Stewart's video for his single "In The Wings Of The Grand Ole Opry" portrays the singer's journey from Gillette, WY to Nashville. Stewart left Wyoming in July 1988 and took an 84-day "walk" on the streets of America. The video was directed by Steven Kopels and produced by Jeffrey A. Wolf.

Russell Smith's video for his release "I Wonder What She's Doing Tonight" features a club performance by the singer. The video was directed by Bill Pope and produced by Joanne Gardner for Acme Pictures.

Lori Yates' video for "Promises, Promises" was released recently. The video was shot in Toronto, Canada and produced by Sarouja Moll for Vast Production/Magic Inc.

According to figures listed in BILLBOARD, Country Music videos are gaining more popularity. Currently 90 tv programs air Country clips, compared with 60 only 18 months ago. In addition to this change, TNN will expand its "Video Country" program from a half-hour to one hour.



INTERNATIONAL

U.K. Country Album Chart

CMA's United Kingdom Country Album Chart appears bi-weekly in MUSIC WEEK, the U.K.'s major trade magazine. It is featured on BBC Radio and in numerous consumer publications in the U.K. and Europe. The charts are compiled by Gallup, the organization which also compiles the British pop charts. Released every two weeks on Monday, the chart ranks the top 20 Country releases in combined sales of lps, cassettes and compact discs. The charts are compiled using Gallup's computer-based panel of 500 record outlets.



Tom T. Hall (right) takes the reins "Down Under" in Sydney, Australia, where his welcoming ceremony included a horse-drawn stagecoach for transportation. The Mercury/PolyGram recording artist recently played to sell-out crowds during his one-month Australian tour.

The Bellamy Brothers will play four British dates and one in Paris before they perform at the Lincolnshire International Country Music Jamboree on May 28.

Ed Bruce is doing his first British tour through May 18. Bruce will also perform at the Lincolnshire Jamboree on May 27.

Canadian singer/songwriter Gary Fjellgaard has been voted the Netherlands' Most Promising Country Artist in the 1989 poll of Holland's Country Music fans conducted recently by the Dutch trade magazines, COUNTRY GAZETTE and NASHVILLE TENNESSEE. Nominations for Dutch Country Music Awards are based on artists' annual record sales and touring activity in the Netherlands.



Keith Whitley, Tony Byworth of Byworth-Wootton International, Lorrie Morgan and Lee Simmonds gather for a quick photo at the International Festival of Country Music at the Wembley Arena in London.

THIS WEEK	TWO WEEKS AGO	April 15, 1989
1	3	FROM THE HEART Daniel O'Donnell — TelStar
2	2	COPPERHEAD ROAD Steve Earle — MCA
3	1	LYLE LOVETT AND HIS LARGE BAND Lyle Lovett — MCA
4	4	BLUEBIRD Emmylou Harris — WEA
5	6	ONE FAIR SUMMER EVENING Nanci Griffith — MCA
6	5	DON'T FORGET TO REMEMBER Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
7	7	I NEED YOU Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
8	14	LONE STAR STATE OF MIND Nanci Griffith — MCA
9	11	ALWAYS & FOREVER Randy Travis — WEA
10	8	SWEET DREAMS Patsy Cline — MCA
11	20	LITTLE LOVE AFFAIRS Nanci Griffith — MCA
12	9	OLD 8 X 10 Randy Travis — WEA
13	NEW	OLD FRIENDS Guy Clark — Island
14	12	TWO SIDES OF DANIEL O'DONNELL Daniel O'Donnell — Ritz
15	18	GUITAR TOWN Steve Earle — MCA
16	17	SHADOWLAND k. d. lang — WEA
17	RE-ENTRY	EXIT O Steve Earle — MCA
18	13	STORMS OF LIFE Randy Travis — WEA
19	RE-ENTRY	TRIO D. Parton/L. Ronstadt/E. Harris — WEA
20	15	BUENAS NOCHES FROM A . . . Dwight Yoakam — WEA

Country Music Association © 1989

1989 COUNTRY MUSIC ASSOCIATION COUNTRY RADIO STATION MAILING LABEL SERVICE

CMA annually surveys all radio stations in the United States and Canada. From this survey is compiled the most comprehensive list of stations broadcasting Country Music. From this list, CMA makes available to its members the only mailing label service exclusively for Country radio.

Label Service Features:

Labels are high quality, pressure-sensitive (self-sticking) type printed in 3 up rows on continuous form backing. Label format includes:

1. Station call letters.
2. Choice of Music Director, Program Director or Station Manager's name on labels.
3. Complete station mailing address.
4. An asterisk on the label indicating stations which only use syndicated music programming.
5. All labels can be ordered in any of the following sequences:

Zip Code

Alpha by Call Letter

City Within State

Members may order as many sets of labels as they want, in as many categories as they like. Computer print-outs in each category are also available for reference and office use, and may be ordered along with the labels. Prices for labels only are in the left price column and prices for labels plus print-outs are in the right column of the order form. Prices for print-outs only are the same as for labels only. All radio station information is computerized, and is constantly updated with available new information.

The CMA Country Radio List in its regular printed booklet form (8½ x 11) is also available to members for a price of \$10.00. The list contains information pertaining to the stations based on their survey response and is not to be construed as all-inclusive.

TO ORDER: Fill Out Reverse Side and Complete Section Below Please Return Entire Form — A New One Will Be Sent With Your Order

MAIL LABELS TO: (please print)

Name _____

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Phone Number (_____) _____

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All orders under 5 lbs. will be shipped First Class.

Orders over 5 lbs. will be shipped U.P.S.

Total Enclosed \$ _____
(from reverse side)

Rental Agreement

Regarding the lists requested on this order form, I hereby agree to the following conditions:

1. I will use the labels for one mailing only.
2. I will not reproduce the lists, the labels, or their contents for any purpose whatsoever.
3. I will not sell, resell, or deliver the lists or the labels to any person, firm, or corporation.
4. In the event that I violate or breach the terms of this agreement, I shall be responsible for all damages resulting from such action.

All Orders Must Be Prepaid
(\$10 Minimum Order)
(Send Check or Money Order)

MAIL YOUR ORDER TO:

**CMA Radio List
Chapple Building
Brentwood, TN 37027**

Signature _____

For _____
(Company)

Date _____

BE SURE TO COMPLETE THE REVERSE SIDE BEFORE MAILING

ORDER BLANK

1989

CMA RADIO STATION LIST LABELS

CATEGORIES	NO. OF STATIONS (APPROX.)	PRESSURE SENSITIVE LABELS ONLY		LABELS & PRINT-OUT*		AMOUNT
		No. of Sets	Price Per Set	No. of Sets	Price Per Set	
HOURS						
1. Full-time Country	2075	()	\$140.00	()	\$210.00	\$ _____
2. 5 - 15	500	()	45.00	()	67.50	\$ _____
3. Total List — all full and part-time	2575	()	180.00	()	270.00	\$ _____
REPORTING STATIONS						
4. BILLBOARD	167	()	\$18.00	()	\$27.00	\$ _____
5. CASHBOX	93	()	18.00	()	27.00	\$ _____
6. GAVIN REPORT	167	()	18.00	()	27.00	\$ _____
7. RADIO & RECORDS	180	()	18.00	()	27.00	\$ _____
8. All Reporting (no duplicates)	417	()	45.00	()	67.50	\$ _____
GEOGRAPHICAL DIVISION (all Full and Part-Time Country)						
9. New England (CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT)	38	()	\$12.00	()	\$18.00	\$ _____
10. Middle Atlantic (NJ, NY, PA)	91	()	12.00	()	18.00	\$ _____
11. East North Central (IL, IN, OH, MI, WI)	293	()	23.00	()	34.50	\$ _____
12. West North Central (MN, IA, KS, MO, NE, ND, SD)	345	()	23.00	()	34.50	\$ _____
13. South Atlantic (DE, FL, GA, MD, NC, SC, VA, WV, Washington, D.C.)	460	()	34.00	()	51.00	\$ _____
14. East South Central (AL, KY, MS, TN)	397	()	28.00	()	42.00	\$ _____
15. West South Central (AR, OK, TX, LA)	437	()	28.00	()	42.00	\$ _____
16. Mountain (CO, AZ, ID, NV, NM, UT, WY, MT)	228	()	18.00	()	27.00	\$ _____
17. Pacific (AK, CA, HI, OR, WA)	177	()	12.00	()	18.00	\$ _____
18. Canada	106	()	12.00	()	18.00	\$ _____

(To order all stations in categories 9 - 18, see No. 3 above)

SUBTOTAL (\$10.00 Min. Order) \$ _____

POSTAGE AND HANDLING \$ _____ 5.00

TOTAL \$ _____

I prefer that the name appearing on each label be that of the station's:

Music Director _____

Program Director _____

Station Manager _____

I prefer that all labels be in the following sequence:

Zip Code _____

Alpha By Call Letter _____

City Within State _____

*If ordering print-out only, price is the same as pressure sensitive labels only.

In Memoriam

Al Bennett

Al Bennett, 62, died March 15 in Los Angeles. Bennett founded Liberty Records in the 1950s. The label produced hit singles and albums for groups such as the Ventures, Bobby Vee and the Fleetwoods. He later founded Cream Records. Bennett also served as a CMA board member. He is survived by his wife, Cathy.

Stuart Hamblen

Stuart Hamblen, 80, died February 28 in Santa Monica, California. The gospel/Country singer also wrote inspirational songs such as "This Old House". For many years Hamblen hosted "The Cowboy Church" radio program in Los Angeles.

Kevin Hughes

Kevin Hughes, 23, died March 9 in a fatal shooting on Nashville's Music Row. Hughes was Country chart director of CASHBOX magazine. He is survived by his parents and a brother.

Dean Stoneman

Dean Stoneman, 58, died February 28 in Lanham, Maryland. He was a member of the reknowned bluegrass act, the Stoneman Family. They were the first winners of CMA's Vocal Group of the Year. He is survived by his wife, Faye; one son; four daughters; and 11 brothers and sisters.

Dale Maphis

Dale Maphis, 31, died April 3 in Nashville. Maphis performed in the "Country Music U.S.A." show at Opryland U.S.A. He was the son of legendary Country entertainers Joe and Rose Lee Maphis. He is survived by his mother, Rose Lee; one sister and one brother.



Country singer/songwriter Merle Haggard (left) received a 1988 BMI Country Award, but couldn't attend the awards presentation. Instead, BMI's Harry Warner (right) presented Haggard with his 44th BMI Country Award on the set of "Hee Haw", where Haggard was taping the show. Haggard was honored as writer and publisher with his company Inorbit Music. He has also received nine BMI Pop awards and one Million-Air Award.

1989 Country Radio Survey Now Available

CMA annually surveys all radio stations in the United States and Canada. From the survey results, CMA publishes the most comprehensive list available of stations broadcasting Country Music. The list is now available to CMA members for \$10.00. Non-members can purchase the survey for \$60.00, with qualified candidates receiving a complimentary CMA individual membership (membership application must be completed to qualify). Price includes postage and handling. CMA organizational members may request a complimentary copy of the survey.

**TO ORDER: Fill out form below and return with check or money order to
CMA Radio Survey, P.O. Box 22299, Nashville, TN 37202.**

Mail Survey To: (please print)

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Phone No. (____) _____

You May Charge Your Payment To:

VISA MasterCard

Card No. _____

Expiration Date: _____

(Signature for Charge Authorization)

CMA Member — Please Include Membership No. _____

Non-Member

- All Orders Must Be Prepaid • Price Includes Postage and Handling •
- Organizational Members May Request A Complimentary Copy •

NEWSLINE

Entertainer **Roy Clark** recently became the first national ambassador for the U.S. Committee for UNICEF, the United Nations Children's Fund. While Americans have served as international ambassadors, Clark was chosen as America's first national ambassador. He will be involved in several fundraising projects and serve as a spokesman for the organization.

Almost 20 acts are participating in the **Red Man "Golden Blend" Country Concert Series** that began in April. The series features **T. Graham Brown, Earl Thomas Conley, Rodney Crowell, Foster & Lloyd, Highway 101, Patty Loveless, Gary P. Nunn, Restless Heart, Ricky Van Shelton, Shenandoah, The Shooters, Darden Smith, Southern Pacific, Sweethearts of the Rodeo, Steve Wariner, Keith Whitley and Tom Wopat**. Three acts perform at each concert. More than 20 dates have been planned for 1989. Sponsors are trying to keep ticket prices at \$10 or less by using in-store and radio promotions and \$5 off coupons.



BMI recently hosted a reception celebrating the association of Pat Higdon and his new company, Patrick Joseph Music, with the Warner Music Group. Higdon was formerly Warner's director of creative services. Shown here (l to r) are BMI vice president Roger Sovine; Gary Harrison, the first songwriter to be signed with Patrick Joseph Music; Tim Wiperman of the Warner Music Group; BMI's Jody Williams and Higdon.

CMA Expands Album Service

The CMA Album Service has been expanded and now includes compact discs. The service is available to broadcast organizational members and helps keep radio stations up to date on the latest product.

Stations subscribing to this program are placed on the selected record company's priority mailing list. CMA's processing fee is \$15. The fees for each label are:

Label	LP	CD
Capitol	\$45	\$115
CBS/Epic	\$80	\$115
MCA/Universal	\$80	\$115
Warner Bros.	\$75	\$115
RCA	\$50	—
16th Avenue	\$20	\$ 20
Doorknob	\$20	—

The next annual enrollment period starts July 1. Checks must be received by CMA no later than June 9. For more information, contact CMA's membership department at (615) 244-2840.

This is the first summer tourists can enjoy **Gene Autry's** new \$54 million **Gene Autry Western Heritage Museum** in Los Angeles. Opened last November, the 140,000-square-foot center houses more than 16,000 artifacts.

GMC Truck has joined the **True Value Hardware** chain as national co-sponsor of the Eighth Annual Country Showdown. Over 375 Country Music radio stations will participate in the 1989 promotion. During 1989 the **True Value/GMC Truck Country Showdown** will award \$150,000 to aspiring artists including \$50,000 and a new truck as the grand prize. More than 100,000 artists enter each year.

Eddy Raven, Benny Wilson, Canyon, Les Taylor, The Shooters, Moe Bandy, Jo-EI Sonnier, Mel Tillis, Skip Ewing, The Byrds, The Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, Southern Pacific, The Bellamy Brothers, Larry Gatlin and the Gatlin Brothers, Vern Gosdin, Ricky Van Shelton, Charley Pride, Charlie Daniels and the Alabama Symphony will perform at Alabama's June Jam in Fort Payne, AL on June 10. Proceeds from the group's June Jam go to charity. For more information call (205) 845-1646.

Roger Murrah was recently elected president of the **Nashville Songwriters Association International**. He has had 160 songs recorded including "Hearts Aren't Made To Break (They're Made To Love)" by **Lee Greenwood**, "Life's Highway" by **Steve Wariner** and **Waylon Jennings'** life story in the lp **A MAN CALLED HOSS**. He also serves on the boards of CMA and the Nashville Entertainment Association. Other officers include **Lewis Anderson**, vice president; **Fred Koller**, vice president; **Jana Talbot**, vice president; **Tom Long**, treasurer; **Susan Longacre**, secretary; and **Terry Choate**, sergeant at arms.

Affiliated Publishers Inc. will hold **Songfest '89** at St. Simons Island, GA July 16 - 18. Songfest '89 will include songwriting seminars and question and answer sessions. Registration is \$300 before May 15; \$375 before June 30; and \$425 if postmarked by July 1. For information, contact **Affiliated Publishers Inc.**, 11 Music Square East, Nashville, TN 37203; (615) 256-9850.

Ann Stuckey, owner of **Music Row Talent Inc.** has opened an office in Smithville, TN under the direction of Allyson Underhill. The address is P.O. Box 554, Smithville, TN 37166; (615) 548-9945. **A. J. Lester** is in charge of the Nashville office.

The public relations firm of **Kathy Gangwisch & Associates** has recently opened a Nashville office. **Kent Arwood** has been named vice president in charge of Nashville operations. The office is located at 1012 16th Avenue South, Nashville, TN 37212; (615) 242-8888. Gangwisch & Associates' main office will remain at 207 Westport Road in Kansas City, MO.



Southwest artist Gary Roller (left) presents Holly Dunn a charcoal portrait during one of the singer's recent recording sessions in Nashville, where she was completing her first Warner Bros. lp. Roller, also a musician, performs with such artists as Michael Martin Murphey.

SIGNINGS

Paul Overstreet to RCA Records and Bobby Roberts Entertainment Corp. . . . **The Rangers** to Charles Dorris & Associates, Inc. . . . **Eddie Preston** to the William Morris Agency . . . **Michael David** to Music Row Talent Production Company.



Eddie Rabbitt (left) recently joined Pat Sajak on his nightly CBS talk show. Rabbitt is currently writing material for his first Universal Records album due out in early fall.

MEDIA

TNN will telecast two hours of exclusive coverage of the U.S. Olympic Festival '89 opening ceremonies on July 21. **Lorianne Crook** and **Charlie Chase**, co-hosts of TNN's "Crook and Chase" and "This Week in Country Music", will serve as on-air commentators for this TNN exclusive.

ABC Radio Network will offer three special Country programs this year. Each will be hosted by **Bob Kingsley**, host of "American Country Countdown with Bob Kingsley". "The Alabama Special", a two-hour profile of the Country supergroup Alabama is set to air over Memorial Day weekend. The July Fourth weekend special, "Country Music's Men of the Eighties", is a four-hour countdown of the most popular male Country performers of the 80s. "Elvis Country" is a three-hour August 16th salute to **Elvis Presley** and his music.

This month **Fitzaloni Productions Inc.** launches "This Country's Rockin'", a full-service multi-media entertainment package which includes radio, print, telephone, concert, video and recorded products. "This Country's Rockin'" will kick off with a televised pay-per-view concert, featuring top Country artists performing at the Silverdome in Pontiac, MI. **Jim Fitzgerald**, company president, will host a weekly radio program also titled "This Country's Rockin'"; its first show will air live from the special Silverdome concert. Other plans include a magazine, a series of compilation albums, a two-hour video highlighting the best from the Silverdome concert, and concert tours under the "This Country's Rockin'" banner. Call (818) 841-3343 for more details.



A W A R D S



Larry Boone gets his cues from the show director during the taping of TNN's "On Stage", formerly "New Country", at The Cannery in Nashville. Boone performed several tunes from his new PolyGram album, *SWINGIN' DOORS, SAWDUST FLOORS*.

WYNY-FM, New York City's Country radio station, will soon have an international audience listening to its public affairs program, "The Vietnam Experience". Host Gene Gitelson taped a special program dealing with adjustment problems facing veterans. The show will be translated and air on Radio Moscow. Gitelson did the program after finding striking similarities between the Vietnam experience for the U.S and the Soviet experience in Afghanistan.

The American Folklife Center in the Library of Congress has compiled *American Folk Music and Folklore Recordings 1987: A Selected List*. The panel of specialists selecting the list included Jay Orr of the Country Music Foundation. The 16-page pamphlet is free of charge from the American Folklife Center, Library of Congress, Washington, D.C. 20540.

The Grand Ole Opry has been around for more than six decades, but its fan club is a bit younger. The Grand Ole Opry Fan Club marks its second birthday this summer. The club is currently offering a souvenir package which includes a quarterly newsletter "The Opry Observer". Fan club members also can take part in special offers, contests and events. To enroll, write the Grand Ole Opry Fan Club at 2804 Opryland Drive, Nashville, TN 37214.

The National Association of Broadcasters has published the 1989 *Broadcast Technology Report: A Survey of Station Technology Applications*. The report includes station secondary services and computer equipment. The report is available from NAB Services at \$20 for members and \$40 for non-members. Call (800) 368-5644 for ordering information.

Minnie Pearl is promoting Opryland to tourists in a television commercial now airing on TNN and other tv networks across the U.S. In the commercial, Pearl draws on her homespun humor to promote the "Opryland Passport", a special tourist package which includes three consecutive days at Opryland, admission to a Grand Ole Opry matinee and a daytime cruise on the General Jackson riverboat.

RADIO & RECORDS has announced the winners of its 1989 Country Readers' Poll. The following winners were selected by Country broadcasters: *Performer of the Year* — Hank Williams, Jr.; *Best Male Vocalist* — Ricky Van Shelton; *Best Female Vocalist* — K. T. Oslin; *Best Group* — Highway 101; *Best Duo* — The Judds; *Best Single* — Keith Whitley; *Best Album* — Randy Travis; and *Best New Artist* — Skip Ewing.

At the 24th annual "Academy of Country Music Awards Show", Alabama was named *Artist of the Decade* and Hank Williams, Jr. was named *Entertainer of the Year*. The following winners were also selected: *Best Male Vocalist* — George Strait; *Best Female Vocalist* — K. T. Oslin; *Best Vocal Group* — Highway 101; *Best Vocal Duo* — The Judds; *Record of the Year* and *Song of the Year* for "Eighteen Wheels And A Dozen Roses" — Kathy Mattea; *Album of the Year* — K. T. Oslin for *THIS WOMAN: Top New Male Vocalist* — Rodney Crowell; *Top New Female Vocalist* — Suzy Bogguss; *Best Music Video* — Hank Williams, Jr. The *Pioneer Award* for outstanding achievement went to Buck Owens. The



Country Goes Classical . . . Michael Martin Murphey recently performed some of his classic songs, backed by the entire Nashville Symphony orchestra. Murphey also has been on tour promoting his Warner Bros. lp *RIVER OF TIME*. Pictured (l to r) are famed instrumentalist Mark O'Connor, Dave Coe, Nashville Symphony conductor Kenneth Schermerhorn, Murphey and John McEuen.

winners in the instrumentalist categories of this year's ACM "Hat" awards were: *bass* — Curtis Stone; *drums* — Steve Duncan; *fiddle* — Mark O'Connor; *guitar* — Al Bruno; *keyboard* — John Hobbs; *specialty instrument* — Charlie McCoy (harmonica); *steel guitar* — Jay Dee Maness; *non-touring band* — Nashville Now Band; and *touring band* — Desert Rose Band.

ON THE MOVE

Jerry Crutchfield, long-time MCA Music executive, recently left to become executive vice president/general manager of **Capitol Records/Nashville**. Also joining Capitol's Nashville office is **Marty Griffin**, formerly with MCA Music, as senior staff assistant. Recent promotions at Capitol include **Gerrie McDowell**, from national Country promotion manager to director of national Country promotion; and **Mark Carter** has been promoted to manager of media & artist relations.

Former music publishing executive **Noel Fox** has been named to replace **Jerry Crutchfield** at MCA Music. Also at MCA, **Steve Day** has been promoted to general manager, and **Al Cooley** has been promoted to director of creative services.

EMI Music Publishing in Nashville has promoted **Robin Palmer** from professional manager to director of professional activities.

Tree International has announced the addition of **Don "Dirt" Lanier** to its creative department. The veteran song man will work with artists on song selections and also be responsible for signing writers to Tree.

WOKQ-FM news anchor **Liz Richards** has been promoted to director of public affairs and community services at the New England Country radio station.

Country Music Television has appointed **R. E. "Teddy" Turner IV** as its new vice president of sales and marketing. Turner comes to CMT from **Turner Broadcasting System** where he served as special projects manager.



Country entertainer **Cliffie Stone** recently received his star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame. Members of Cliffie's family and several Country entertainers were in attendance. Seated (l to r) are Hollywood Mayor **Johnny Grant**, **Cliffie Stone** and **Bill Welsh**, president of the Hollywood Chamber of Commerce. Standing (l to r) are sons **Jonathan Stone** and **Steve Stone**, **Pat Buttram**, **Eddie Dean**, **Gene Autry**, daughter **Linda Stone** and son **Curtis Stone** of the Country group **Highway 101**.

The Academy of Country Music named **WSIX-FM** of Nashville the **1988 Radio Station of the Year**. In other categories, **Jon Conlon** of **WGKX** in Memphis, TN and **Dandalion** of **WRKZ** in Hershey, PA tied for **Disc Jockey of the Year**; and the **Crazy Horse Steak House & Saloon** in Santa Ana, CA, won the **Country Night Club of the Year**.

In Canada, **CHAM-AM** radio personalities received three awards at **The Sixth Annual Music Industry Conference** in Toronto. **Gord Eno** and former P.D. **Jim Johnston** shared the **Country Radio Program Director's Award**. **Mark LaPointe** was named the **Country Radio Music Director of the Year**; and for the second year in a row, **Cliff Dumas** was honored as the **Country Radio Air Talent Winner for 1988**.

The **Western Riders of the Silver Screen** film festival has given its **Silver Boot** award to **Johnny Russell**. The award is given each year in honor of **Archie Campbell**.

Sixty-two Georgians have been approved for nomination and possible induction into the **1989 Georgia Music Hall of Fame**. Some of the nominees excelling in Country Music include: **Former** — **Razzie Bailey**, **Mac Davis**, **Paul Davis**, **Roy Drusky**, **Terri Gibbs**, **Ronnie Milsap**, **Hank Penny** and **Freddy Weller**. **Non-Performer** — **Alex Hodges**, **Mama Wynette Mitchem**, **Chips Moman**, **Harold Shedd** and **Ray Whitley**. **Posthumous** — **Pete Drake** and **Junior Samples**. **"Mary Tallent" Pioneer Award** — **Cotton Carrier** and **Ralph Peer**. Four new inductees will be chosen from the list of nominees and will be honored at the **Eleventh Annual Georgia Music Hall of Fame Awards Banquet/Concert** on September 23 in Atlanta.



When the **Oak Ridge Boys** hosted a recent "Nashville Now" show, MCA executive **Tony Brown** surprised them with a platinum award for their **GREATEST HITS II** album. The award is their third platinum album. Pictured (l to r) are Oak Ridge Boy **Steve Sanders**, MCA executive **Tony Brown**, and Oak Ridge Boys **Richard Sterban**, **Joe Bonsall** and **Duane Allen**.

Tony Martell has moved into the position of senior vice president and general manager for **CBS Associated Labels**. Martell has been vice president and general manager of the company since 1976.

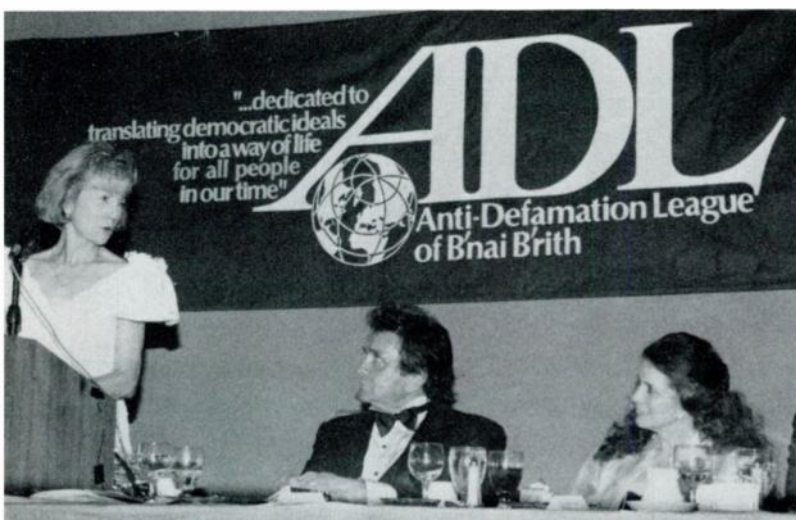
Jo Ann Burnside, formerly of **Network Ink**, has been named marketing coordinator for **Michael Campbell & Associates** which manages Country star **Ricky Van Shelton**. **Cyndy Crabtree** has been promoted to director of fan club operations for Shelton.

Multi Talent Entertainment (MTE) has added **Bob Mitchell** to the position of vice president. Mitchell previously served as program director at **WKJN-FM** in Baton Rouge, LA.

Art Sanders, formerly with **KGA-AM/KDRK-FM** in Spokane, WA, has become senior program director for **Sun Group Country Stations** in Longview, TX.

Buddy Baron is the new early morning drive personality for **KSAN-FM** in the San Francisco Bay Area. Baron was previously with **KKHT** in Houston.

At **CMA**, **Dennie Simpson** has been promoted to information systems manager; **Enrico Amato** has joined as membership assistant; and **Julia Morrice** is the new European operations assistant at **CMA's** London office.



CMA executive director Jo Walker-Meador praised Johnny Cash as "an ideal American" at a recent banquet honoring Cash that was given by the B'nai B'rith Anti-Defamation League in Nashville. The league honor was renamed the Johnny Cash Americanism Award to annually cite personalities in the entertainment or music fields who advance the cause of freedom and dignity for all people. Pictured (l to r) are Walker-Meador, Cash and June Carter Cash.



NEW COMPANIES

John E. Denny, president of **Denny Music Group**, has opened **Denny Recording Studio (Denny's Den)**. Denny is resident studio engineer; other engineers will participate on an independent basis. The address is 3325 Fairmont Drive, Nashville, TN 37203.

Back-To-Back Breakers



Mason Dixon

- ★ The members of **Mason Dixon** — **Jerry Dengler**, **Rick Henderson** and **Frank Gilligan** — first met when performing in Texas nightclubs but they didn't stay there long. **Mason Dixon** now performs over 200 dates a year. In addition to concerts they've also made appearances on "New Country" and "Nashville Now".
- ★ The group has aided various charities through benefit performances. Each year their annual **Mason Dixon Sports Classic** is held in Tyler, Texas to raise funds for children's charities.
- ★ Members list the **Beatles**, **George Jones**, **Merle Haggard**, **Ricky Skaggs**, **Kathy Mattea**, **James Taylor** and **Roy Orbison** as some of their favorite performers.
- ★ **Mason Dixon** found a unique way to promote their release, "Exception To The Rule". In February radio programmers received a pizza from **Dominio's** and a copy of the single. Programmers ate it up, and they loved the pizza, too.
- ★ The group recently entered an endorsement deal with **Justin Boots**, a company based in Fort Worth, Texas. The company will provide tour support, video support and the creation of a personalized line of **Mason Dixon** boots.

Judi Turner Named Top CMA Recruiter



Each month CLOSE UP recognizes the CMA member who has recruited the most new members. This issue, CMA spotlights Judi Turner of Network Ink, a Nashville public relations firm. Others who have recruited members are Joe Edwards, Mark Carman, Wayne Brown, Chuck Bivens, Miles W. Bell, Tex Pavel, Rhubarb Jones, John Beecher and David Conrad.



Super-picker Roy Clark was caught kicking up his heels in front of the United Nations Building in New York recently when he was named the first national ambassador for the U.S. Committee for UNICEF.

NEWSBREAKERS

Clint Eastwood is going Country again. The movie star is doing a Country soundtrack lp for his new movie "Pink Cadillac". Artists performing on the Warner Bros. soundtrack include Michael Martin Murphey, Southern Pacific, Randy Travis and Hank Williams, Jr. Soundtrack lps for previous Eastwood movies have all launched Country hits.

The Recording Industry Association of America, Inc. (RIAA) reports that total industry shipments of recordings in 1988 rose 8 percent over the 1987 level to an all-time high of 762 million units. The previous high was 726 million units in 1978. The dollar volume of 1988 shipments rose 12 percent to \$6.25 billion, calculated at suggested list price, according to RIAA. This compares to a dollar volume of \$5.56 billion in 1987.

RIAA also announced the results of an independent survey it commissioned on the importance of song and artist identification to radio listeners. According to RIAA, almost 60 percent of the respondents said it was frustrating to listen to a new song and not know the name of the artist or title of the song.

The Radio Advertising Bureau estimates that 95.3 percent of Americans, or about 230 million people, listen to radio an average of three hours and seven minutes per day, five days a week.

Country star Lee Greenwood, along with son Tedd and daughter Kelly, spent Easter weekend as guests of President and Mrs. Bush and family. The informal weekend started at Camp David, the Presidential retreat. After attending Easter services, the families returned to the White House for a personally conducted tour by the President.



Newly-signed RCA recording artist Paul Overstreet is pictured (l to r) with Joe Galante, senior vice president/general manager RCA Nashville and manager Bobby Roberts. RCA has just released the first single "Sowin' Love" from Overstreet's upcoming lp.

ASCAP Turns 75

As beginnings go, this one was quite inauspicious. It was October 1913, and a handful of New York City music people were attempting to establish an organization for musical-performance licensing. In the teens of this century, it was a brash idea, and certain to be scoffed at by a cynical population — those who used music as part of numerous businesses.

Outside Luchow's Restaurant, it was pouring down rain, and only nine of the 36 invited music professionals showed up. The mood in the meeting room was discouraging, but Victor Herbert insisted that those present sit down and begin planning anyway. Herbert, the best-known name in the small gathering, was already noted for his operettas such as "Babes In Toyland". The others, including fellow composers, a music publisher, and an attorney specializing in copyright law, heeded Herbert's zeal and sat down. The momentum these men initiated took on real form at the next meeting on February 13, 1914. There, in New York, more than 100 professionals (including Irving Berlin and other famous names) officially formed the American Society of Composers, Authors and Publishers (ASCAP). In this case, the term "authors" denoted lyricists.

The issue was clear: The U.S. Copyright Law, clarified and updated in 1909, specifically protected music composers and lyric writers — entitling them to be paid for the public use or performance of their works. This, however, did not mean that the going would be easy for the new organization; there was no legal precedent and the established music users of the day — chiefly hotels and restaurants — were strong and well organized in their opposition to a fee or licensing structure.

The dawn of American radio, a new technology that would have a revolutionary impact on society, was also at hand. The ASCAP founders were well aware of radio's impending magnitude — and the need to ensure that composers would be protected and paid for the use of their works.



ASCAP members visited Washington, DC in fall 1987 to discuss music industry issues with legislators. At a Capitol Hill luncheon, members met with lawmakers. Pictured are (seated l to r) Wayland Holyfield, ASCAP president Morton Gould, Senator Albert Gore (D-TN) and Richard Leigh. Standing (l to r) are Buddy Killen, Kevin Lamb, ASCAP southern executive director Connie Bradley, Peter McCann, Mrs. Tipper Gore, Mike Reid and Hal David.



President George Bush met with three of ASCAP's Country Music members in Washington, DC in 1987. The three, Mike Reid ("Stranger In My House"), Richard Leigh ("Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue") and Kevin Lamb, vice-president/general manager of Maypop Music Group were among a large group of music leaders from across the country who came to Capitol Hill to discuss their opposition to "source licensing" bills with lawmakers. Pictured (l to r) are Reid, President Bush, Leigh and Lamb.



ASCAP and Opryland jointly hosted a dinner at the Opryland Hotel saluting Congressional Arts Caucus members during the group's tour of Nashville. Pictured standing (l to r) are caucus chairman Bob Carr (D-MI), ASCAP southern executive director Connie Bradley, ASCAP members Peter McCann and Mike Reid and (seated) Congressman Bart Gordon (D-TN).



A historic gathering of ASCAP songwriters in 1915 includes (l to r) Jerome Kern, Louis Hirsch, A. Baldwin Sloane, Rudolph Friml, Oscar Hammerstein I (seated at piano), Alfred Robyn, Gustave Kerker, Hugo Felix, John Philip Sousa, Leslie Stuart, Raymond Hubbell, John Golden, Sivio Hein and Irving Berlin.

During those first few years, the path was tough for the new "performing right society". There were disheartening court rulings, but the ASCAP members pushed on, soon joined by other legendary names, including John Philip Sousa and Oscar Hammerstein. Then, a landmark 1917 U.S. Supreme Court decision gave the society the legal sanction it needed.

Without giving up, these artists had set the cornerstone for what is today a complex multimillion-dollar organization. ASCAP is a society that concerns itself with more than one billion performances annually, and includes such names as Bartok, Stravinsky, Rodgers, Johnny Mercer, Lionel Richie, Kenny Rogers, Bruce Springsteen, Johnny Cash and Henry Mancini, Fred Rose, Bob Wills, Gene Autry and Erwin Rouse of "Orange Blossom Special" fame.

ASCAP — like the other performing right organizations BMI and SESAC — is concerned with legal royalties accrued through the public performance of a given work. The most massive medium is American radio. Others include network and local television, concert halls, jukeboxes, nightclubs and businesses that play background music.

Today ASCAP uses a complex and sophisticated survey and distribution system that has as its goal the fair and sensible allocation of license fees to the society's members and members of foreign societies that license through ASCAP.

Although ASCAP had Country Music writers and publishers among its members from its early days, it was in the early 1960s that it established a physical presence in Nashville.

In 1963, ASCAP opened a cramped two-room office on the third floor of the RCA building in Nashville's Music Row area.



"Stanley Adams, the president of ASCAP, and the ASCAP board of directors felt like Country Music had grown to the point where it needed representation in Nashville for songwriters to come and join. Most songwriters couldn't afford to go to New York," said Connie Bradley, ASCAP Southern regional executive director.

Bobby Russell was among the earliest Music Row composers to sign with ASCAP. His tunes, "Honey" and "Little Green Apples" helped put ASCAP on the map in Nashville along with songs by Billy Ed Wheeler, Jerry Foster and Bill Rice.

Later ASCAP signed Rory Bourke ("Shadows In The Moonlight"), Richard Leigh ("Don't It Make My Brown Eyes Blue"), Don Schlitz ("The Gambler") and Dave Loggins ("Morning Desire") just to name a few.

ASCAP sponsors free workshops and seminars, writers' showcases and gives scholarships and grants to develop the careers of new writers.

ASCAP's list of singer/songwriters include the Bellamy Brothers, Don Williams, Vern Gosdin, Randy Travis, Ricky Van Shelton, George Strait, Reba McEntire, Emmylou Harris, Kathy Mattea, Forester Sisters, The Shooters, Sweethearts of the Rodeo, Rodney Crowell, Rodney Foster, John Denver, Gary Morris and Lyle Lovett.

"In the last five years Nashville has become a mecca for all types of songwriters, artists and producers. Our goal is what it's always been — to attract unknown songwriters and artists while continuing to serve the ASCAP members we have," Bradley said. CU

This story is based on an article written by Jim Pettigrew, Jr. that appeared in SKY magazine.

MAY

(* denotes birthdays)

- 1 ***Sam McGee**; Franklin, Tennessee
- ***Sonny James**; Hackleburg, Alabama
- ***Rita Coolidge**; Nashville, Tennessee
- Loretta Lynn chosen Artist of the Decade by Academy of Country Music, 1980



- 2 ***Larry Gatlin**; Seminole, Texas
- ***R. C. Bannon**; Dallas, Texas
- ***John Ware**; Tulsa, Oklahoma
- ***Bing Crosby**
- J. Edgar Hoover dies, 1972
- 3 ***Dave Dudley**; Spencer, Wisconsin
- ***Sugar Ray Robinson**
- Alabama's lp, **THE CLOSER YOU GET**, is certified gold, 1983
- City of Washington, DC incorporated, 1802
- 4 ***Al Dexter**; Jacksonville, Tennessee
- ***Tim DuBois** (*Restless Heart*); Grove, Oklahoma
- Kingston Trio wins first Country Grammy for "Tom Dooley", 1959
- Rock 'n' roller Gene Vincent records "Be Bop A Lula", his best known song, in Nashville, 1957
- J. L. Frank dies, 1952
- 5 ***Tammy Wynette** (*Virginia Wynette Pugh*); Itwamba County, Mississippi
- ***Roni Stoneman**; Washington, DC
- ***Karl Marx**
- Alan B. Shepard first astronaut in space, 1961
- 6 ***Cliff Carlisle**; Taylorsville, Kentucky

- 7 *(**George**) **Riley Puckett**; Alpharetta, Georgia
- ***Joan Marshall Schriver**; Buffalo, New York
- ***Kyle Bailes**; Enoch, West Virginia
- ***Terry Allen**; Wichita, Kansas
- ***Lorrie (Lawrencine Mary) Collins**; Tahlequah, Oklahoma
- 8 ***Ricky Nelson** (*Eric Hilliard Nelson*); Los Angeles, California
- ***Homer Bailes**; Charleston, West Virginia
- ***Harry Truman**
- Reba McEntire makes her chart debut with "I Don't Want To Be A One Night Stand", 1976
- The Opry's George D. Hay dies, 1968
- 9 ***Bobby Lewis**; Hodgenville, Kentucky
- ***Hank Snow**; Liverpool, Nova Scotia, Canada
- Jimmie Davis becomes governor of Louisiana, 1944
- Nixon impeachment hearings begin, 1974
- Bob Neal dies, 1983
- 10 ***Maybelle Carter**; Nickelsville, Virginia
- "Wildwood Flower" recorded by the Carter family, 1928
- "Beneath Still Waters" by Emmylou Harris reaches number one, 1980
- Eddy Arnold scores first Top Ten hit in a decade, "Let's Get It While The Gettin's Good", 1980
- 11 ***Bob Atcher**; Hardin County, Kentucky
- ***Mark Herndon** (Alabama); Springfield, Massachusetts
- ***Irving Berlin**
- Lester Flatt dies, 1979
- Original Siamese twins — Chand and Eng — born, 1811
- 12 ***Whitey Ford** "The Duke of Paducah"; DeSoto, Missouri
- ***Joe Maphis**; Suffolk, Virginia
- ***Billy Swan**; Cape Girardeau, Missouri
- 13 ***Johnny Wright**; Mt. Juliet, Tennessee
- ***Jack Anglin**; Columbia, Tennessee
- The Pope is shot, 1981
- U.S. declares war on Mexico, 1607
- Bob Wills dies, 1975
- 14 **MOTHER'S DAY**
- ***Charlie Gracie**; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- 13-year-old Tanya Tucker makes her chart debut with "Delta Dawn", 1972
- Guitarist Mose Rager dies, 1986



- 15 ***Eddy Arnold**; Henderson, Tennessee
- ***George Brett**
- Ricky Skaggs joins the Opry, 1982
- 16 George Strait makes his chart debut with "Unwound", 1981
- First Oscar presented, 1929
- Clint Eastwood and Merle Haggard enter the Country charts with "Bar Room Buddies", 1980
- 17 ***Grant Turner**; Abilene, Texas
- ***J. D. Martin**; Harrisburg, Virginia
- First Kentucky Derby, 1875
- Buffalo Bill Cody begins Wild West Show, 1883
- New York stock exchange founded, 1792
- 18 ***Joe Bonsall** (*Oak Ridge Boys*); Philadelphia, Pennsylvania
- ***Rodney Dillard**; Salem, Missouri
- ***George Strait**; Pearsall, Texas
- 19 ***Mickey Newbury**; Houston, Texas
- ***Lester Wilburn**; Hardy, Arkansas
- "King Of The Road" by Roger Miller awarded a gold record, 1964
- 20 *"*Lonesome*" George Gobel
- ***Cher**
- Jerry Reed makes his chart debut with "Guitar Man", later a huge hit for Elvis Presley, 1967
- 21 Charlie Poole dies, 1931
- Charles Lindbergh lands in Paris, 1927
- Waylon Jennings tops the Country charts with "Luckenbach, Texas (Back To The Basics Of Love)".
- The record stays at the top for six weeks, 1977
- 22 ***Ralph Peer**; Kansas City, Missouri
- ***Andy Andrews**; Birmingham, Alabama

23 *Shelly West; Cleveland, Ohio
 *Mac (Malcolm) Wiseman; Waynesboro, Virginia

24 *Rosanne Cash; Memphis, Tennessee
 *Bob Dylan (Robert Allen Zimmerman)
 Samuel Morse sends the first telegraph message, "What hath God wrought?," 1844

25 *Ernest V. "Pop" Stoneman; Monorath, Virginia
 *Tom T. Hall; Olive Hall, Kentucky
 *Jessi Colter (Miriam Johnson); Phoenix, Arizona



26 *Hank Williams, Jr.; Shreveport, Louisiana
 *John Wayne
 Jimmie Rodgers dies, 1933
 Willie Nelson makes his first chart appearance with "Touch Me", 1962.

27 *Don Williams; Plainview, Texas
 *Kenny Price; Florence, Kentucky
 *Redd Stewart; Ashland City, Tennessee

28 *Charlie McCoy; Oak Hill, West Virginia
 *Gary Stewart; Letcher County, Kentucky
 "Gideon" by Kenny Rogers awarded platinum album, 1977

29 MEMORIAL DAY
 *Jerry Dengler (Mason Dixon); Colorado Springs, Colorado
 *John F. Kennedy
 *Bob Hope



30 *Wynonna Judd; Ashland, Kentucky
 *Johnny Gimble; Tyler, Texas
 First Indianapolis 500 held, 1911
 Dolly Parton and Carl Dean wed in Catoosa County, Georgia, 1966

31 *Vic Willis; Schuler, Oklahoma
 *Johnny Paycheck; Greenfield, Ohio

JUNE

1 *Johnny Bond (Cyrus Whitfield Bond); Enville, Oklahoma
 *Pat Boone
 Johnny Horton's "Battle Of New Orleans" the number one pop song in America, 1954

2 *Carl Butler; Knoxville, Tennessee
 First radio patent awarded to Marconi, 1896

3 *Homer Louis "Boots" Randolph, Jr.; Paducah, Kentucky
 Hank Williams' last show on "Louisiana Hayride", 1949
 Donna Fargo tops the Country chart with "The Happiest Girl In The Whole U.S.A.", 1972

4 *Charlie Monroe; Rosine, Kentucky
 *Freddie Fender; San Benito, Texas
 *Dennis Weaver
 Alabama's first June Jam in Ft. Payne, 1982

5 *Don Reid (The Statlers); Staunton, Virginia
 Brenda Lee's "I'm Sorry" begins climb to number one on pop charts, 1960
 "Urban Cowboy" premieres in Houston, 1980

6 *Rosalie Allen; Old Forge, Pennsylvania
 *Joe Stampley; Springhill, Louisiana
 *Gid Tanner; Thomas Bridge, Georgia

7 *Tom Jones; Pontrypridd, Wales
 *Wynn Stewart; Morrisville, Missouri
 *Clarence White; Lewiston, Maine

8 *Ray Melton; Hampton, Georgia
 *Steve Fromholz; Temple, Texas
 *Vernon Oxford; Benton County, Arkansas
 U.S. forces authorized for combat in Vietnam, 1965

9 *Les Paul
 *Cole Porter
 Lorie Morgan employed by the Grand Ole Opry, 1967
 Wilma Lee Leary and Stoney Cooper marry, 1941

10 *F. Lee Bailey
 *Judy Garland
 Willie Nelson has the best-selling lp, STARDUST, and single, "Georgia On My Mind", 1978

11 *Wilma Burgess; Orlando, Florida
 Hank Williams debuts on the Grand Ole Opry, 1949

12 *Charlie Feathers; Myrtle, Mississippi
 Tex Ritter inducted as Opry member, 1965
 Jerry Lee Lewis' second record, "Whole Lotta Shakin' Goin' On", enters the charts, 1957

13 *Dennis Locorriere (Dr. Hook)
 Country Music Foundation Library and Media Center dedicated, 1972

14 Flag Day
 *Burl Ives
 "Pop" Stoneman dies, 1968
 Fiddlin' John Carson records the first Country Music hit record, 1923

15 *Terri Gibbs; Augusta, Georgia
 *Waylon Jennings; Littlefield, Texas
 *Leon Payne; Alba, Texas
 *Blind Alfred Reed; West Virginia

[Factfile is compiled from *The Illustrated Country Almanac* by Richard Wootton (Dial Press), *The Illustrated History of Country Music* by the editors of COUNTRY MUSIC magazine (Doubleday/Dolphin Books), *The People's Almanac #2* by David Wallechinsky and Irving Wallace (The Kingsport Press), *The Encyclopedia of Folk, Country and Western Music* by Irwin Stambler and Grelun Landon (St. Martin's Press), *Another Beautiful Day* by Rod McKuen (Harper & Row), *INSIDE COUNTRY* by Marie Cracknell and Linda Cauthen, and the Country Music Foundation's OFFICIAL 1989 COUNTRY MUSIC CALENDAR, as well as from original research.]

MAY

- 3-4 CMA Board Meeting / Amsterdam Hilton / Amsterdam, Holland
- 5 Fifth Annual Salute to Jimmie Rodgers / Douglas Corner Cafe / Nashville, TN / Call for details (615) 385-2931
- 5-7 Los Angeles Independent Music Conference / Beverly Garland Hotel / Los Angeles, CA
- 6 Zug Festival / Switzerland
- 10-14 National Association of Independent Record Distributors & Manufacturers (NAIRD) Convention / Philadelphia, PA / Call for details (609) 547-3331
- 24-25 "American Music Making Abroad" Symposia / New York City & Washington, DC / Call National Music Council at (212) 563-3734
- 25- Kerrville Folk Festival / Kerrville, TX / Call (512) 257-3600 for details
- 26-27 Frutigen Singer-Songwriter Festival / Switzerland
- 27-29 Lincolnshire International Country Music Jamboree / Grantham, England

JUNE

- 1-4 Summer Lights / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 259-6374 for details

- 2 Eighteenth Tokyo Music Festival International Contest / Nippon Budohkan Hall / Tokyo, Japan
- 2-5 International Country Music Buyers Association / Hyatt Regency / Nashville, TN / Call (913) 596-2149 for details
- 5 MUSIC CITY NEWS Country Awards / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 5-11 18th International Country Music Fan Fair / Tennessee State Fairgrounds / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 889-7503
- 10 June Jam / Fort Payne, AL
- 11 Sunday Mornin' Country / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 373-5741 for details
- 12-13 24th Burns Media Radio Studies Seminar / Atlanta, GA / Call (800) 821-8035 for details
- 28 Second Annual Aggie Awards / The Songwriters Guild of America / Vanderbilt Plaza Hotel / Nashville, TN

JULY

- 19-20 CMA Board Meeting / The Greenbrier / White Sulphur Springs, WV

AUGUST

- 4-6 WE Fest Camping and Country Music Festival / Detroit Lakes, MN / Call (612) 333-5577 for details

SEPTEMBER

- 15-24 Eleventh Annual Georgia Music Festival / Call (404) 656-3551 for details
- 19-22 International Bluegrass Music Association Trade Show and Fan Fest / Owensboro, KY / Call (919) 542-3997 for details
- 23 Eleventh Annual Georgia Music Hall of Fame Awards Banquet / Georgia World Congress Center / Atlanta, GA

OCTOBER

- 5-9 International Marketplace of Festivals (IMOF) / Nashville, TN
- 6-8 CMA Talent Buyers Entertainment Marketplace / Hyatt Regency Hotel / Nashville, TN / Call (615) 244-2840 for details
- 9 CMA Awards Show / Grand Ole Opry House / Nashville, TN
- 10 CMA Board of Directors Meeting
CMA Annual Membership Meeting

Singer/songwriter Johnny Russell (left), joined by Waylon Jennings (far right) surprised Buck Owens recently on the set of TNN's "Nashville Now". Russell and Jennings strolled in front of TNN's cameras and sang along with Owens midway through his performance of the Russell-penned "Act Naturally". It was Russell's first public appearance since undergoing triple bypass heart surgery in January.



Close Up

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